

CLAIMS

The invention claimed is:

1. A device comprising:
 - a network interface for establishing a communication link through a network;
 - and
 - a processor coupled with the network interface, wherein the processor is adapted to:
 - receive voice data through the communication link;
 - generate first indexing metadata about a select portion of the voice data before receiving a second portion of the voice data that is subsequent to the select portion;
 - store the first indexing metadata; and
 - store the select portion of the voice data in a memory.
2. The device of claim 1, wherein the processor is further adapted to:
 - store the second portion of the voice data.
3. The device of claim 1, wherein the processor is further adapted to:
 - receive a tagging input to determine whether a proposed portion of the voice data is the select portion.
4. A device comprising:
 - means for establishing a communication link through a network;
 - means for receiving voice data through the communication link;
 - means for generating first indexing metadata about a select portion of the voice data before receiving a second portion of the voice data that is subsequent to the select portion;
 - means for storing the first indexing metadata; and
 - means for storing the select portion of the voice data in a memory.
5. The device of claim 4, further comprising:
 - means for storing the second portion of the voice data.

6. The device of claim 4, further comprising:
means for receiving a tagging input to determine whether a proposed portion
of the voice data is the select portion.
7. An IP telephone for communicating through a network comprising:
a microphone for receiving local voice inputs;
a signal processing unit for converting the local voice inputs into local digital
voice data, for receiving remote digital voice data through the network, for storing the
aggregate local and remote digital voice data in a memory, and for generating
indexing metadata about a select portion of the aggregate voice data in response to a
tagging input; and
a speaker for converting the remote voice data into sound.
8. The IP telephone of claim 7, further comprising:
at least one key for providing the tagging input.
9. The IP telephone of claim 8, wherein
the key is a hard key.
10. The IP telephone of claim 8, wherein
the key is a soft key adapted to be selected by a pointing device.
11. The IP telephone of claim 8, further comprising:
a second key for providing a second tagging input.
12. An IP telephone for communicating through a network comprising:
means for receiving local voice inputs;
means for converting the local voice inputs into local digital voice data;
means for receiving remote digital voice data through the network,
means for storing the aggregate local and remote digital voice data in a
memory,
means for generating indexing metadata about a select portion of the aggregate
voice data in response to a tagging input; and
means for converting the remote voice data into sound.

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13. The IP telephone of claim 12, further comprising:
means for providing the tagging input.
14. The IP telephone of claim 13, wherein
the means for providing the tagging input produces a DTMF sound.
15. The IP telephone of claim 13, wherein
the means for providing the tagging input produces a tagging signal.
16. The IP telephone of claim 13, further comprising:
a second means for providing a second tagging input.
17. A network switch comprising:
a network interface for coupling to a network; and
a processor coupled with the network interface, wherein the processor is
adapted to
establish first and second communication links through a network, and a third
communication link concurrent with the first and second communication links;
select the first communication link to be favored and the second
communication link to be disfavored;
generate and store a selection identifier about the selection;
receive first voice data through the first communication link and second voice
data through the second communication link;
retransmit over the third communication link the received first voice data but
not the received second voice data; and
store in a memory the received first voice data but not the received second
voice data.
18. The network switch of claim 17, wherein the processor is further adapted to:
establish a storage connection through the network concurrent with the third
connection; and
transmit the selection identifier over the storage connection for storing it.

19. The network switch of claim 17, wherein:
the selection identifier is stored in the memory.
20. The network switch of claim 17, wherein:
the first communication link is with a first party, and
the selection identifier includes an identification code for the first party.
21. The network switch of claim 17, wherein the processor is further adapted to:
deselect the first communication link from being favored;
then select the second communication link to be favored and the first
communication link to be disfavored; and
generate and store an additional selection identifier about the later selection.
22. The network switch of claim 17, wherein:
the selection identifier includes a time stamp of when the selection is made.
23. The network switch of claim 22, wherein
the time stamp is an RTP time stamp,
and the processor is further adapted to:
convert the RTP time stamp into a different format.
24. The network switch of claim 17, wherein the processor is further adapted to:
deselect the first communication line from the previous selecting; and
generate and storing a deselection identifier about the deselection.
25. The network switch of claim 24, wherein
the deselection identifier includes a time stamp of when the deselection is
made.
26. The network switch of claim 25, wherein
the time stamp is an RTP time stamp,
and the processor is further adapted to:
convert the RTP time stamp into a different format.

27. A device comprising:
 - means for establishing first and second communication links through a network, and a third communication link concurrent with the first and second communication links;
 - means for selecting the first communication link to be favored and the second communication link to be disfavored;
 - means for generating a selection identifier about the selection;
 - means for storing the selection identifier;
 - means for receiving first voice data through the first communication link and second voice data through the second communication link;
 - means for retransmitting over the third communication link the received first voice data but not the received second voice data; and
 - means for storing in a memory the received first voice data but not the received second voice data.
28. The device of claim 27, further comprising:
 - means for establishing a storage connection through the network concurrent with the third connection; and
 - means for transmitting the selection identifier over the storage connection for storing it.
29. The device of claim 27, wherein
 - the first communication link is with a first party, and
 - the selection identifier includes an identification code for the first party.
30. The device of claim 27, further comprising:
 - means for deselecting the first communication link from being favored;
 - means for subsequently selecting the second communication link to be favored and the first communication link to be disfavored; and
 - means for generating and storing an additional selection identifier about the later selection.
31. The device of claim 27, wherein
 - the selection identifier includes a time stamp of when the selection is made.

32. The device of claim 27, further comprising:
means for deselecting the first communication line from the previous selecting;
means for generating a deselection identifier about the deselection; and
means for storing the deselection identifier.
33. An article comprising: a storage medium, said storage medium having stored thereon instructions, that, when executed by at least one device, result in:
establishing a communication link through a network;
receiving voice data through the communication link;
generating first indexing metadata about a select portion of the voice data before receiving a second portion of the voice data that is subsequent to the select portion;
storing the first indexing metadata; and
storing the select portion of the voice data in a memory.
34. The article of claim 33, wherein the instructions further result in:
storing the second portion of the voice data.
35. The article of claim 33, wherein the instructions further result in:
receiving a tagging input to determine whether a proposed portion of the voice data is the select portion.
36. An article comprising: a storage medium, said storage medium having stored thereon instructions, that, when executed by at least one device, result in:
establishing a communication link through a network;
receiving a first portion and a subsequent second portion of voice data through the communication link;
determining whether a first indexing feature has been activated; and
if so, generating first indexing metadata about the second portion of the voice data before the second portion is completely received;
storing the second indexing metadata; and
storing the second portion of voice data.

37. The article of claim 36, wherein the instructions further result in:
storing the first portion of voice data.
38. The article of claim 36, wherein the instructions further result in:
converting the first portion of the voice data to a first sound.
39. The article of claim 36, wherein the instructions further result in:
receiving a first tagging input,
wherein determining whether the first indexing feature has been activated is
decided from the first tagging input.
40. The article of claim 39, wherein the instructions further result in:
the first tagging input is one of a strike of a first soft key, a first DTMF tone,
and a signal encoding a first DTMF tone.
41. The article of claim 36, wherein the instructions further result in:
receiving a third portion subsequent to the second portion of the voice data
through the communication link;
determining whether a second indexing feature has been activated;
if so, generating second indexing metadata about the third portion of the voice
data before receiving completely the third portion; and
storing the second indexing metadata.
42. The article of claim 41, wherein the instructions further result in:
storing the third portion of voice data.
43. The article of claim 41, wherein the instructions further result in:
receiving a second tagging input,
wherein determining whether the second indexing feature has been activated is
decided from the second tagging input.
44. The article of claim 43, wherein

the second tagging input is one of a strike of a second soft key, a second DTMF tone, and a signal encoding a second DTMF tone.

45. The article of claim 41, wherein the instructions further result in:
combining the first and second indexing metadata in a single arrangement.
46. An article comprising: a storage medium, said storage medium having stored thereon instructions, that, when executed by at least one device, result in:
establishing first and second communication links through a network, and a third communication link concurrent with the first and second communication links;
selecting the first communication link to be favored and the second communication link to be disfavored;
generating and storing a selection identifier about the selection;
receiving first voice data through the first communication link and second voice data through the second communication link;
retransmitting over the third communication link the received first voice data but not the received second voice data; and
storing in a memory the received first voice data but not the received second voice data.
47. The article of claim 46, wherein the instructions further result in:
establishing a storage connection through the network concurrent with the third connection; and
transmitting the selection identifier over the storage connection for storing it.
48. The article of claim 46, wherein
the selection identifier is stored in the memory.
49. The article of claim 46, wherein
the first communication link is with a first party, and
the selection identifier includes an identification code for the first party.
50. The article of claim 46, wherein the instructions further result in:
deselecting the first communication link from being favored;

then selecting the second communication link to be favored and the first communication link to be disfavored; and

generating and storing an additional selection identifier about the later selection.

51. The article of claim 46, wherein the instructions further result in:
the selection identifier includes a time stamp of when the selection is made.

52. The article of claim 51, wherein
wherein the time stamp is an RTP time stamp,
and the instructions further result in:
converting the RTP time stamp into a different format.

53. The article of claim 46, wherein the instructions further result in:
deselecting the first communication line from the previous selecting; and
generating and storing a deselection identifier about the deselection.

54. The article of claim 53, wherein
the deselection identifier includes a time stamp of when the deselection is made.

55. The article of claim 54
wherein the time stamp is an RTP time stamp,
and further comprising:
converting the RTP time stamp into a different format.

56. A method comprising:
establishing a communication link through a network;
receiving voice data through the communication link;
generating first indexing metadata about a select portion of the voice data before receiving a second portion of the voice data that is subsequent to the select portion;
storing the first indexing metadata; and
storing the select portion of the voice data in a memory.

57. The method of claim 56, further comprising:
storing the second portion of the voice data.
58. The method of claim 56, further comprising:
receiving a tagging input to determine whether a proposed portion of the voice data is the select portion.
59. A method comprising:
establishing a communication link through a network;
receiving a first portion and a subsequent second portion of voice data through the communication link;
determining whether a first indexing feature has been activated; and
if so, generating first indexing metadata about the second portion of the voice data before the second portion is completely received;
storing the second indexing metadata; and
storing the second portion of voice data.
60. The method of claim 59, further comprising:
storing the first portion of voice data.
61. The method of claim 59, further comprising:
converting the first portion of the voice data to a first sound.
62. The method of claim 59, further comprising:
receiving a first tagging input,
wherein determining whether the first indexing feature has been activated is decided from the first tagging input.
63. The method of claim 62, wherein
the first tagging input is one of a strike of a first soft key, a first DTMF tone, and a signal encoding a first DTMF tone.
64. The method of claim 59, further comprising:

receiving a third portion subsequent to the second portion of the voice data through the communication link;
determining whether a second indexing feature has been activated;
if so, generating second indexing metadata about the third portion of the voice data before receiving completely the third portion; and
storing the second indexing metadata.

65. The method of claim 64, further comprising:

storing the third portion of voice data.

66. The method of claim 64, further comprising:

receiving a second tagging input,
wherein determining whether the second indexing feature has been activated is decided from the second tagging input.

67. The method of claim 66, wherein

the second tagging input is one of a strike of a second soft key, a second DTMF tone, and a signal encoding a second DTMF tone.

68. The method of claim 64, further comprising:

combining the first and second indexing metadata in a single arrangement.

69. A method comprising:

establishing first and second communication links through a network, and a third communication link concurrent with the first and second communication links;

selecting the first communication link to be favored and the second communication link to be disfavored;

generating and storing a selection identifier about the selection;

receiving first voice data through the first communication link and second voice data through the second communication link;

retransmitting over the third communication link the received first voice data but not the received second voice data; and

storing in a memory the received first voice data but not the received second voice data.

70. The method of claim 69, further comprising:
establishing a storage connection through the network concurrent with the third connection; and
transmitting the selection identifier over the storage connection for storing it.
71. The method of claim 69, wherein
the selection identifier is stored in the memory.
72. The method of claim 69, wherein
the first communication link is with a first party, and
the selection identifier includes an identification code for the first party.
73. The method of claim 69, further comprising:
deselecting the first communication link from being favored;
then selecting the second communication link to be favored and the first communication link to be disfavored; and
generating and storing an additional selection identifier about the later selection.
74. The method of claim 69, wherein
the selection identifier includes a time stamp of when the selection is made.
75. The method of claim 74,
wherein the time stamp is an RTP time stamp,
and further comprising:
converting the RTP time stamp into a different format.
76. The method of claim 69, further comprising:
deselecting the first communication line from the previous selecting; and
generating and storing a deselection identifier about the deselection.
77. The method of claim 76, wherein

the deselection identifier includes a time stamp of when the deselection is made.

78. The method of claim 77,
wherein the time stamp is an RTP time stamp,
and further comprising:
converting the RTP time stamp into a different format.

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